

# BOOKS and AUTHORS REVIEWS and COMMENT

## LITERARY CRITICISM AND BOOK NEWS

America in the Philippines: Professor Worcester's Statement of Our Achievements and Duties—Other Reviews.

**FACTS AND SANE JUDGMENTS.**  
THE PHILIPPINES, PAST AND PRESENT. By Dean C. Worcester, Secretary of the Interior of the Philippine Islands, 1898-1903; Member of the Philippine Commission, 1900-1903; Author of "The Philippine Islands and Their People." In two volumes, with 123 plates. Vol. I, 8vo, pp. viii, 500. The Macmillan Company.

We can now almost forgive Judge Blount for that egregious book of his which Mr. Bryan praised so highly and which we had the pleasure of putting into the pillory. It was a scandalous thing for him to write it. But then it inspired, or provoked, so much of this present volume which might not have been written without it, and of which we would not miss one word. Professor Worcester would probably have written a comprehensive work on the Philippines in any case, had the Blount sereed never appeared. But it would not have been quite this kind of book, and this is really just the kind of book that is needed. It is a far cry back to Blacnabato and Aguinaldo's rebellion. But since there are those who will keep harping upon discredited fictions and libels of the past, with purpose of present mischief, it is well to have them once for all time put to confusion, with the convincing authority of one who knows and who cites the full text, chapter and verse, of every essential record.

First, then, as to the story, which Judge Blount revamped, about Aguinaldo being in pious rebellion when Dewey went to Manila, and about Dewey and Pratt making official promises to him of Filipino independence. The facts are that Aguinaldo and his comrades ended their rebellion in the treaty of Blacnabato in December, 1897, for the sum of \$500,000 in Spanish gold, on which they were to live somewhere outside of the islands. At Hong Kong they formed another junta, intended to foment another rebellion as soon as they had got all their pay for abandoning the first one. But Aguinaldo held the pursestrings, and was so chary about letting the other exiles have a share that the latter appealed to the courts for a "square deal." Thereupon Aguinaldo, reluctant to let the secrets of the junta be revealed, put himself beyond the jurisdiction of the Hong Kong court by fleeing to Singapore. There he met Pratt, our consul general, but as the one could speak no English and the other no Spanish, intercourse between them was conducted by one Bray, an English journalist of ambitious imagination, more picturesque than veracious; from whose meditative ministrations presently proceeded the germ of the legend about the "promises" aforesaid. In fact, there were no such "promises," explicit or implied. Dewey long ago gave them, for his account, the most direct and plenary denial, and we assume that his word stands, even against Blount *cum* Aguinaldo. As for the somewhat impressive and convivial Pratt, our author produces document after document to make infallibly clear that he not only did not make such promises, but also repeatedly declared to Aguinaldo his lack of authority to make them or even to discuss the question of American policy in the islands; this as early as April, before Dewey went to Manila. A little later Aguinaldo, with characteristic deceit, strove to suppress the utterances of representative Filipinos in favor of loyal acquiescence in American sovereignty. But Professor

Worcester quotes many of them from the record, simply establishing the proposition that Filipino independence was not promised, was not expected and was not desired until it was put forward as an afterthought for ulterior purposes. The growth of the legend, from its germ in false pretences to its full development, is clearly traced, with authority which can scarcely be disputed. With similar completeness the story of Filipino "co-operation" at the capture of Manila is disposed of in a way suggesting the historic comments of British officers upon their Spanish "allies" in the Peninsular War. The only thing that the Americans and the Aguinaldists had in common was the enemy. There was no insurgent "co-operation"; only treachery. This is severe judgment, but Professor Worcester marshals an array of facts of record in support of it.

There are some long passages in the book which had to be written to complete the record, but which cannot be read without a rising of the gorge. They tell the hideous tale of Aguinaldism "government" in various parts of the islands over which the insurgents for a time had sway. We have seldom, in any annals, ancient or modern, savage or civilized, met with anything so revolting as the tortures, rape and murder which prevailed wholesale under the administration of the (spare the mark!) "Washington of the Philippines." Yet Judge Blount, familiar with these awful things, doubtless recalling how once order prevailed in Warsaw, reported at a lull in the devilry that there was "perfect tranquillity and public order" in the blood-drenched valley; and in his book insouciantly dismisses worse than inquisitorial horrors with the *obiter dictum* that while it is true that there were cruelties practised by the Filipinos on the Spaniards, yet they were mere ebullitions of revenge for three centuries of tyranny, which "do not prove unfitness for self-government." Why, then, should the "civilize them with a Krag" of the Carabao ditty be austere regarded as denoting any lack of benevolence and of the milk of human kindness?

The talk of a Filipino "republic" was never taken seriously by those who knew the facts. For those who have not known, or whose knowledge needs refreshing, it is well to have Professor Worcester again make plain the dictatorial designs of Aguinaldo and the manner in which an oligarchy assumed to lord it over the masses of the Filipino people. Of course, the land system, the lack of popular education, and other conditions favored just such a regime, which would have been as far from a republic as ever was the old Spanish Captain-General. In grateful contrast stands the record of American achievement since the extinguishment of that mad orgy of rape and loot. The establishment of justice, the enlargement of popular rights, the extension of education, the conquering of disease, the promotion of prosperity, the execution of great public works, and all the manifold achievements of the devoted bearers of the "white man's burden," compose one of the most creditable chapters not only in American history but in the whole world's record of the dealings of the strong with the weak. There is no touch of vainglory in this inspiring portion of the narrative, though the author might repeat on every page that all these things he saw and a great part of them he was. His purpose is not to boast, any more than it is to rail against the railer. He answers Blount's lampoons with facts of record, that is all.

One quotation must be made, in justice to one of the author's colleagues, Governor Forbes, concerning the circumstances of whose removal from office various tales have been circulated in exculpation of the doers of the deed:

It was his fortune to be in office at the time of the change in the national administration of the United States. After continuing to serve for months with no sign from Washington as to whether his resignation was desired, he was advised by the chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs that the appointment of Mr. Francis Burton Harrison, who is a Tammany Hall Democrat, as his successor had been sent to the Senate, and three days after its confirmation received a curt request for his resignation to be effected in a week and a day. He was also requested to employ servants for Mr. Harrison. Spaniards who read on the public streets newspapers which printed this message were seen to tear them up and stamp on the pieces. Our Spanish friends are accustomed to expect courtesy in connection with the removal of faithful and efficient public servants.

Yes, we are grateful to Judge Blount for giving Professor Worcester the opportunity to write just such a volume as this, and we shall await the appearance of the second volume with keen interest. Mr. Bryan will probably not enliven it as he did the Blount book; at which Professor Worcester will probably not mourn as one without hope. But thoughtful and unbiased readers will credit the author with having rendered a national service of no slight proportions in this presentation of facts concerning our insular possessions in the Asian seas.

### DR. JOHNSON'S HOUSE.

The house at No. 17 Gough Square, London, where Dr. Johnson lived while he was preparing his encyclopedia, has been restored and opened to the public as a memorial that is intended to become a museum as well. The high wall that hid from view the garden to the left of the house has been replaced by an iron railing, and the little plot of ground paved and adorned with a flower bed. The partition dividing



THE "BACKBONE" OF THE ALASKAN RANGE  
(FROM "THE CONQUEST OF MOUNT MCKINLEY," G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS)

Johnson's two rooms on the top floor was found to be so dilapidated as to render its removal necessary, but the original window seats remain, and the old grates in the fireplaces have been left as they were.

### MYSTIC AND WORKER

Spiritual Life and Practical Achievements.

VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST AND PHILANTHROPIST, 1578-1660. By E. K. Sanders. With eight reproductions from engravings in the Bibliothèque Nationale. 8vo, pp. xxiii, 419. Longmans, Green & Co.

Vincent de Paul will always remain to the world the originator of organized charity. That was his great practical service to humanity, whose effects have grown and multiplied to this day. He founded asylums and hospitals, the company of the Sisters of Charity and the congregation of the Mission Priests, who went to the ends of the earth to search out and comfort the suffering and oppressed; he became the keeper of the conscience of the Queen of France, the austere and bold opponent of Mazarin—his was a life of action and an influence for action in the lives of others, but yet what this wholly admirable biography lays most stress upon is not his great work, but its source—his ardent spirituality, his faith and its strong tinge of mysticism. On this side the book is in a certain way a study in the psychology of religious inspiration.

The historical part of the picture is not allowed to suffer from this, however. The war of the Fronde, the desolation to which it brought the rural population of France, the spirit of philanthropy stirring in the country which needed only Vincent's energetic leadership to set to work; the great historical figures that responded to his call, his opponents and those whom he opposed, all this is presented at full length and well co-ordinated. A serious study this, and a well-informed one from the pen of a writer who has ere now demonstrated her rare familiarity with the social history of seventeenth century France.

### IMPRESSMENT

The Story of a Notorious British System.

THE PRESS GANG Afloat and Ashore. By J. R. Hutchinson. Illustrated. 8vo, pp. viii, 342. E. P. Dutton & Co.

"Necessity knows no law" is the only excuse that can be offered for the system of forcible impressment of free Englishmen into the naval service of their country which reached its height during the great wars of the eighteenth century, and was not abolished until 1833, when the government realized that the cost of this method of recruiting was ruinous to the trade and industry of the country.

Mr. Hutchinson traces the history of the custom from its earliest days. Magna Charta, it appears, did not, in practice, guarantee the liberties of seafaring Englishmen; it left them the serfs of the sea, subject to seizure at the King's command. The word "press," by the way, was originally derived from the old English "prest," French "prêt," meaning "ready," and referred to money, to what later came to be known as the King's shilling.

The transition from the earlier to the later significance of the term is easily seen. As the need of sailors increased, the operations of the press gangs spread from the floating population of the harbor fronts of maritime towns to the interior of the kingdom, until, in the eighteenth century, none was safe. Certain classes were exempt in theory, among them harvesters, tradespeople, fishermen, lighthouse builders and the watermen of the Thames; but mistakes were easily and often deliberately made, and sometimes only tardily rectified. A London butcher served sixteen years with the fleet before he succeeded in regaining his liberty. Lawless men formed sham press gangs and practised blackmail; the authorized press masters lay in wait for homecoming merchantmen, and impressed their crews at the entrance of harbors. Sometimes the masters of these ships ran for it; sometimes their crews took charge—mutinied—and tried to escape, crowding on all sail at the risk of life, vessel and cargo. The crimps of the

merchant marine were in lively competition with the navy's recruiting agents. In the American colonies British naval vessels often were left without sufficient hands to sail for home. Speaking of the Impressments of Americans prior to the War of 1812, the author offers the familiar explanation that Englishmen could obtain forged naturalization papers in American ports for \$3. One Paddy Riley in New York issued them at the rate of a dozen a day. They were even freely sold in British sea towns.

The press gang often was roughly handled; there are some tales here of battle that make Captain Marryat's impressment stories look very tame. There are tales here, also, of the sufferings which the custom brought to women, and still others of women who actually served on warships. The illustrations are mostly from prints of the period, among them being a reproduction of a rare play bill, on which it was announced that "Lieutenant Kelly, Lieutenant King and Lieutenant Bevis pledge their words of honour that no seaman whatever shall be molested by their people on play nights from the hours of 4 in the afternoon to 6 the following morning, after which time the indulgence ceases."

### MOUNT MCKINLEY

Two Records of American Mountaineering.

THE ASCENT OF DENALI (MOUNT MCKINLEY). A Narrative of the First Complete Ascent of the Highest Peak of North America. By Hudson Stuck. 8vo, pp. xix, 188. Charles Scribner's Sons.

THE CONQUEST OF MOUNT MCKINLEY. The Story of Three Expeditions Through the Alaskan Wilderness to Mount McKinley. By Belmont Browne. Appendix by Herschel C. Parker. With 100 illustrations from drawings by the author, and from photographs and maps. 8vo, pp. xvii, 381. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

Archdeacon Stuck's narrative of his accomplishment of the greatest possible feat in American mountaineering is as simple as it is vivid. Here is the true spirit of a noble sport which, originating in the Alps and chiefly among Englishmen, has during the last fifteen years sought and won its trophies the world over, from the Andes to the Himalayas, wherever unconquered peaks raised their challenging heads. Mount McKinley long defied the skill and endurance of man. It sent home in defeat expedition after expedition, often, as in the case of Messrs. Browne and Parker, after allowing them to come "within an ace" of success. It surrendered at last to the assault of an experienced climber, who knew how to profit by the experiences of his predecessors.

It was, indeed, as Archdeacon Stuck explicitly states, Mr. Browne's account of the last of his three attempts that conducted much to his own success. From the outfitting of his party to the approach of the mountain from the interior instead of the coast, and his reliance on fresh game instead of a dead weight of pemican, his preparations and plans proved in every detail to be adequate, thorough and correct. And the weather, which played so large a part in defeating Mr. Browne within sight of his goal, favored the conqueror. Indeed, once the proper approach had been found, and with the exception of the Northwest Ridge, which an earthquake disrupted between Mr. Browne's climb and his own, the author found that:

Denali is not a mountain that presents special mountaineering difficulties of a technical kind. Its difficulties lie in its remoteness, its size, the great distance of snow and ice, the burdens that must be carried over those distances. Its climbing is, like nearly all Alaskan problems, essentially one of transportation. But the Northwest Ridge, in its present condition, adds all the spice of sensation and danger that any man could desire.

Denali—the author pleads for the restoration of the native Indian name to the mountain now bearing that of McKinley, together with the change back from Mount Foraker to the aboriginal name "Denali's Wife." The lower peaks between they called "Denali's Children." The archdeacon has, as a matter of fact, a weakness for the baptism and rebaptism of peaks in the Alaskan range. "Browne's Tower" is a graceful tribute to his all but successful predecessor, to whom he owed so much; so is "Parker's Pass." He has given the name of one of his companions, Harry P. Karstens, to what was clumsily described as the "East Ridge of the South Peak"; Walter Harper, a native Alaskan, who was the

first to reach the summit, deserved to have the upper glacier named after him; and on the two horns of the South Peak the author has bestowed the names of two missionaries to the Alaskan Indians, Annie Farthing and Clara Carter. Mr. Robert G. Tatum, of Tennessee, must, for the present at least, content himself with the honor of having planted the Stars and Stripes upon the highest point within the territory of the United States.

The author's descriptions of the grandeur of the scenery of the Alaskan giant mountain are admirable; his

## MANY INVENTIONS: NOVELS AND TALES

Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch's Artistry—Variations on an Old Theme by Cyrus Townsend Brady—A Captivating Dancer.

### THE DELECTABLE DUCHY.

NEWS FROM THE DUCHY. By Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch. 12mo, pp. 281. Boston: Richard G. Badger.

This volume of short stories and sketches by "Q" is welcome for its manner, the delectable, polished, beguiling art of its author, but the substance upon which that art has been expended here is in most instances very tenuous. One wanders on and on through these pages in a land of delight and beauty and sunshine, within sound of the roar of the tides, with a tragedy of the sea here and there seen through the softening, tranquil haze that so often follows the turbulence of storms. Once Sir Arthur takes us a journey to London, to witness the arrival of Lieutenant Lapenotière with the news of Trafalgar and its cost. With him comes the shade of the great sailor who has fallen, nor leaves him until he has delivered that last message to Lady Hamilton entrusted to his care. A poetic invention told with exquisite art. The legend of "Our Lady of Gwiltian," whether the author's own fancy or merely retold, is also decidedly worth while. For the rest, the contents of the book are a triumph of sheer artistry over scant material, and as such they are a genuine pleasure in a day of much inferior workmanship.

### TREASURE TROVE.

THE ISLAND OF THE STAIRS. By Cyrus Townsend Brady. Illustrated by the Kinney. 12mo, pp. 270. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

Who has not read "Treasure Island"? Who, having revelled in its adventurous thrills, will ever forget it? Mr. Brady has done a bold thing in writing a story that reminds one of Stevenson's spirited narrative on almost every page. He has elaborated the theme, which was old, of course, when the Scotchman took it up to adorn it for years untold to come. And, no small achievement, he has made a mighty good job of it. He has introduced a young woman into this grim men's work of sailing the seas with a murderous crew, of fighting mutiny and defeating it, of sailing home short-handed with the treasure under hatches. And the woman decidedly adds to the interest, for with her there comes into the narrative that other old motive, two on an island. And there are war canoes and savages coming across the waters. A la "Robinson Crusoe." For good measure there are the giant stairs, and the giant statues of aboriginal deities, and the sacrificial stone of Aztec origin there in the midst of the wastes of the South Sea. Even though he never ceases to be reminiscent for long, Mr. Brady succeeds in interesting us, perhaps because he is reminiscent, and because the boldness of it, and its success, rather appeals to us.

### WILD DOINGS.

THE BUTTERFLY. By Henry Kitchell Webster. Illustrated. 12mo, pp. 311. D. Appleton & Co.

Why did Elaine, the greatest of modern dancers, elect to give three performances at the Opera House of the little university town? The reader will learn in good time. Suffice it to say that her coming threw into a flutter the ladies of the local Drama Club, for Elaine was more than great—she was sensational. Should the club issue a bulletin and countenance her, or should it not? Thus was dragged into the affair the university's professor of the drama. He temporized, and was lost. Appearances were against him, for what conclusions can an academic so

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A writer whose name escapes me said that "all the world is a stage," discovering, as I suppose, a fanciful resemblance between a laden coach and the globe itself speeding through space with its load of humanity, agreeable or bickering, amused or bored, each outside pursuing his own journey, regardless of his private business, toward a destination unknown to his fellow travellers, and presently to relinquish his seat for ever. ("A Piece of Quality." By Ashton Hilliers. Desmond Fitzgerald, Inc.)

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### AN APPEALING FIGURE.

WHITE WITCH. By Merial Buchanan. 12mo, pp. 336. Brentano's.

The "little white witch" of this story was also a "little gray mouse." She was the Comtesse Marie Bernadine, and she lived in Austria, in an ancient house that proudly styled itself the Castle of Trausdorf. It was her elder sister, the beautiful heiress, the Comtesse Eileen von Traun, who called her "my little gray mouse." She was small and slight, and almost plain, with dusky hair, a vision of soft, pale youthfulness. Childlike, gray-green eyes were the redeeming beauty of her face. It was his highness Prince Ungar-schitz, a handsome, haughty, cynical, princely man, with little regard for women, who had come from the regal state in which he lived, in Vienna, to sue for her sister's hand, who called her "little white witch," because, sitting at the piano in her white dress, all alone among the shadows, she

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